

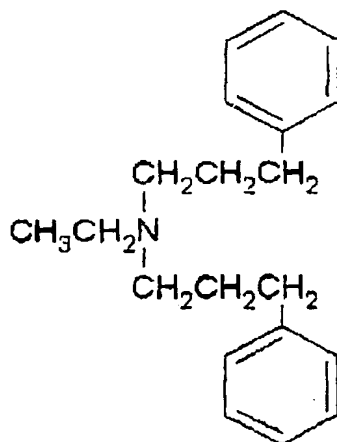
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

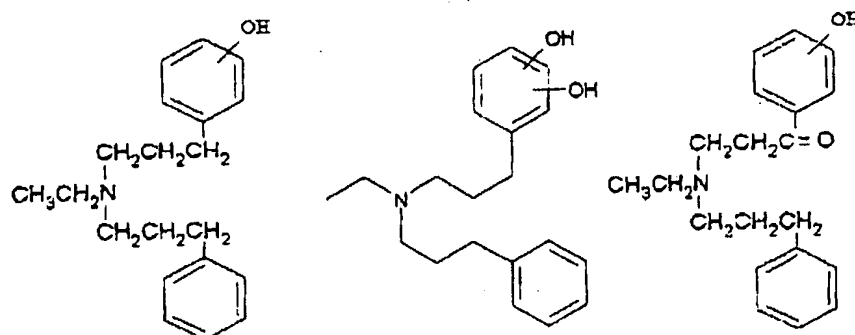
1- 20. (Canceled)

21. (New) A method for treating depression comprising the administration of an effective amount of Alverine



or its metabolites, their salts and their esters, to a subject in need thereof.

22. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the metabolites of Alverine are:



23. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 21 wherein said Alverine is administered orally, sublingually, buccally, sub-cutaneously, transdermally, locally, rectally, intranasally, or injectably, in particular intraperitoneally, intravenously or intramuscularly.

24. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 23, wherein said Alverine is dosed from 0.1 to 1000 mg.

25. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 23 wherein said Alverine is administered in human therapy in one or more daily doses for an adult weighing an average of 60 to 70 kg.

26. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 21 wherein said Alverine is administered in combination with a tricyclic antidepressant compound.

27. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 26, wherein said tricyclic antidepressant compound is imipramine.

28. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 21 wherein said Alverine is administered in combination with specific inhibitor antidepressant compound of serotonin recapture.

29. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 28, wherein specific inhibitor antidepressant compound of serotonin recapture is fluoxetine.

30. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 26, wherein the compounds are administered simultaneously, separately or staggered over time.

31. (New) A pharmaceutical composition, wherein it comprises at least a compound as claimed in Claim 21 or its salts or esters and at least a tricyclic antidepressant compound for simultaneous use, separately or staggered over time for treating depression.

32. (New) The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 31, wherein the ratio of dose by weight of Alverine and tricyclic antidepressant is between 1/10 and 10/1.

33. (New) The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 31, wherein the ratio of dose by weight of Alverine and tricyclic antidepressant is between 1/4 and 4/1.

34. (New) The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 31, wherein the tricyclic antidepressant compound is imipramine.

35. (New) A pharmaceutical composition, wherein it comprises at least a compound as claimed in Claim 21 or its salts or esters and at least a specific inhibitor antidepressant compound of serotonin recapture for simultaneous utilisation, separately or staggered over time for treating depression.

36. (New) The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 25 wherein the ratio of dose by weight of Alverine and the specific inhibitor antidepressant of serotonin recapture is between 1/10 and 10/1.

37. (New) The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 25, wherein the ratio of dose by weight of Alverine and the specific inhibitor antidepressant of serotonin recapture is between 1/4 and 4/1.

38. (New) The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 25, wherein the specific inhibitor antidepressant compound of serotonin recapture is fluoxetine.

39. (New) A pharmaceutical composition, wherein it comprises at least a compound as claimed in Claim 22 or its salts or esters and at least a tricyclic antidepressant compound for simultaneous use, separately or staggered over time for treating depression.

40. (New) A pharmaceutical composition, wherein it comprises at least a compound as claimed in Claim 22 or its salts or esters and at least a specific inhibitor antidepressant compound of serotonin recapture for simultaneous utilisation, separately or staggered over time for treating depression.